



3 1223 06256 0306

SAN FRANCISCO REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY
525 Golden Gate Avenue
San Francisco, California

For Immediate Release

BERS

DEC 26 1967

ter F. Kaplan, Chairman
tor K. Atkins, Vice Chairman
nley E. Jensen
ncis J. Solvin
C. Joseph Wellington
Justin Herman, Executive Director

DOCUMENT

MAR 22 1968

SAN FRANCISCO
PUBLIC LIBRARY

5/S



San Francisco Public Library

INFORMATION CENTER
SAN FRANCISCO PUBLIC LIBRARY
CIVIC CENTER
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94102

REFERENCE BOOK

Taken from the Library

DIAMOND HEIGHTS DECORATIVE SAFETY WALL APPROVED

ment Agency today approved Stefan Alexander Novak's
al wood sculpture to be built on Red Rock Hill on the
t at the intersection of Clipper Street, Portola
Boulevard.

zed a contract for its construction which Novak will

the Diamond Heights community, General Electric
ed Rock Hill portion of the Diamond Heights renewal
for the construction of the safety wall sculpture.

60 foot long wall sculpture will be built of redwood timbers, some of the
x ten redwood posts being 36 feet tall. The base of the wall will be cast
oncrete to which the redwood elements will be bolted in conformance with
neering specifications.

k, a Berkeley architect and sculptor stated:

"The **D**ill was conceived as a landmark for the new Diamond Heights
community. It was designed to be seen from a distance and to be

exp REF 729.5 the pedestrian walking through it. . . . The steep, narrow
sit Sa52d in part, for its long, narrow shape in plan. Emphasis on



3 1223 06256 0306

SAN FRANCISCO REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY
525 Golden Gate Avenue
San Francisco, California

For Immediate Release

MEMBERS

DEC 26 1967

Walter F. Kaplan, Chairman
Victor K. Atkins, Vice Chairman
Stanley E. Jensen
Francis J. Solvin
Dr. C. Joseph Wellington
M. Justin Herman, Executive Director

DOCUMENT

MAR 22 1968

SAN FRANCISCO
PUBLIC LIBRARYDIAMOND HEIGHTS DECORATIVE SAFETY WALL APPROVED

The San Francisco Redevelopment Agency today approved Stefan Alexander Novak's final design for a monumental wood sculpture to be built on Red Rock Hill on the south side of Clipper Street at the intersection of Clipper Street, Portola Drive, and Diamond Heights Boulevard.

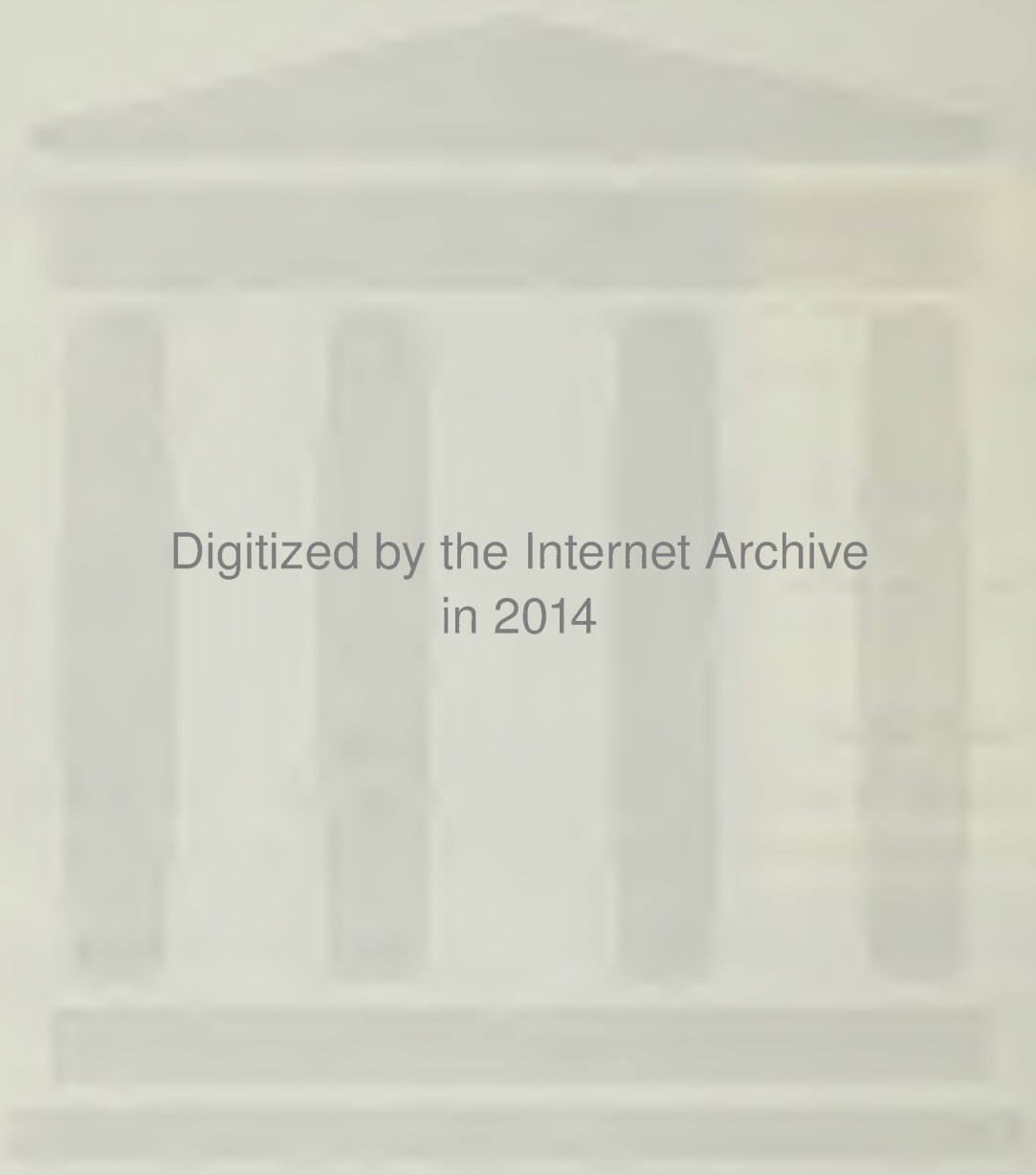
Agency Members also authorized a contract for its construction which Novak will supervise.

As a civic contribution to the Diamond Heights community, General Electric Company, developer of the Red Rock Hill portion of the Diamond Heights renewal area, has committed \$40,000 for the construction of the safety wall sculpture.

The 60 foot long wall sculpture will be built of redwood timbers, some of the ten x ten redwood posts being 36 feet tall. The base of the wall will be cast in concrete to which the redwood elements will be bolted in conformance with engineering specifications.

Novak, a Berkeley architect and sculptor stated:

"The wood wall was conceived as a landmark for the new Diamond Heights community. It was designed to be seen from a distance and to be experienced by the pedestrian walking through it. . . . The steep, narrow site accounts, in part, for its long, narrow shape in plan. Emphasis on



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2014

<https://archive.org/details/diamondheightsde2619sanf>

the silhouette of its members arose from the site's east-west orientation which places the sun behind the wall. Finally, the desire for privacy for the homes below the site led to the development of its 'wall' quality."

The basic design problem was to create a safety wall as protection from traffic occurring at the sharp curve of the intersection of several streets. Novak resolved this through the use of a heavy wood rail at the curb and through the strong wall construction itself, with the members bolted to concrete abutments.

In August 1966, Stefan Novak's design proposal was selected as the winner in the Redevelopment Agency's competition for the design of a Diamond Heights decorative safety wall. It was to be built on an easement deeded by Eichler Homes on a steep slope adjoining the northerly boundaries of homes constructed by Eichler.

The Agency's selection of Novak was made with the understanding that he would work with General Electric Company, developers of Red Rock Hill and donors of the funds (\$40,000) for the construction of the sculpture, and the Agency to develop his design concept to meet the objectives of the various parties whose approval was required.

The original competition requirements stipulated that the safety wall, being the introductory visual element to Diamond Heights Redevelopment Area, should be a strong bold design statement; it should also relate to its environment, the sloping site, adjacent buildings and streets, and provide a safety barrier against runaway automobiles for those homes down-slope from the site.

Novak's final design has already received approval from the San Francisco Art Commission as well as from residents of the Diamond Heights Community.

[The body of the document contains several paragraphs of text that are extremely faded and illegible. The text appears to be a formal document, possibly a report or a letter, with multiple lines of justified text. Due to the low contrast and blurriness, the specific words and sentences cannot be transcribed.]

